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COMMENT OF THE DAY

New Approach

SIR Winston Churchill's House of Commons review of the Bermuda conference contained some interesting and quite important revelations. One was that the French delegates had been fully apprised of American concern over the possibility of the European Defence Community treaty failing to receive French ratification, and had been warned that in such an eventuality, United States aid policy might require drastic revision. This puts a somewhat different complexion on French official reaction to the Foster Dulles declaration relating to the same subject, and suggests that either officials at the Quai d'Orsay were kept in ignorance, or were piqued by the fact that Mr Dulles let the cat out of the bag before either M. Laniel or M. Bidault had had an opportunity of breaking the news to the nation. This apart, it is of moment to note that Sir Winston Churchill took a thoroughly realistic view of the American attitude at Bermuda and agreed with the theme that a channel such as EDC is necessary for the proper use of American aid allocated for the strengthening of West Europe's defences. Thus the vital necessity of French ratification and implementation of the treaty is underscored.

ANOTHER subject of considerable weight which Sir Winston introduced into the Bermuda talks was that of offering security guarantees to Soviet Russia. Undoubtedly the Kremlin, since the war, has developed a phobia about what the Russian leaders describe as "threats" by the Western Powers to the "security" of the Soviet Republic, and no amount of assurances, either through diplomatic notes or speeches in the United Nations meetings, have to date dissipated that phobia. Sir Winston Churchill's belief that specific guarantees will accomplish what generalised assurances have failed to do, may yet prove to be an illusion. Nevertheless it is an approach to the burdensome problem of breaking down Russian suspicions of the Free World's motives and intentions which should be made. The projected Four Power conference offers the opportunity, and the hope is that both the United States and France will be prepared to join Britain in testing Soviet reaction to the proposition.

Close Contest For French Presidency

SOCIALIST HEADS SECOND BALLOT

Versailles, Dec. 17.

The official Socialist Party candidate, M. Marcel Edmond Naegelen, who is opposed to the formation of a European army, tonight emerged victorious in a second ballot as the Congress of Versailles (comprising members of the French Senate and the Chamber of Deputies) met to choose a new President of the French Republic in succession to M. Vincent Auriol. M. Naegelen had a slight lead over the present French Premier, M. Joseph Laniel, representing the Independent Conservatives, and a third ballot will take place at 1 p.m. GMT tomorrow (Friday) as no candidate today had obtained an absolute majority in the voting.

Following M. Naegelen and M. Laniel at the end of the second ballot were M. Yvon Delbos, representing the Radical group, and the present French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, who is the candidate of the Christian Democrats (M.R.P.).

Voting in the second ballot was: Naegelen, 209; Laniel, 276; Delbos, 185; Bidault, 143. Earlier, a first ballot had brought M. Naegelen to the forefront with 162 votes, followed by M. Laniel, with 159, M. Bidault with 131, M. Yvon Delbos with 120 and M. Paul Jacques Kalb of the de Gaulle (Uras) group with 114.

There were stormy scenes at the end of the second ballot tonight when the President of Congress, M. Andre le Troquer, recessed the session after the result of the voting.

Strong shouts of protest against the decision were made from the centre and right groups and cries of "Resign!" were heard above the din. As the President remained adamant in his decision, however, the benches were slowly emptied.

Total number of ballots cast tonight was 927 of which four were not acceptable. The absolute majority required by any of the four candidates still in the race would have been 462.

LOBBIES CROWDED
The Congress had assembled at 7.30 GMT to conduct the second ballot and there was intense excitement as both Houses went in to vote. The benches were crowded with newspapermen, photographers, diplomats and large crowds of onlookers and the historic Chateau de Versailles assumed an almost holiday-like atmosphere as flash bulbs exploded amid the noise of excited

groups discussing the chances of the candidates.

But, at the end of the day, France was still without a second post-war President—and there were still four men in the race.

France's many and varied political groups now hold the key to tomorrow's voting. Lobby meetings are being held to decide on courses of action and any strong support of one candidate may bring about the majority necessary to make him President of France.

Reliable sources said that the Communists, whose candidate, M. Marcel Cachin, had withdrawn from the balloting, had come out in support of the Socialist, M. Naegelen, and that the former de Gaulle (Uras) had decided to permit their members to vote as they pleased with the withdrawal of their candidate, M. Jacques Kalb, who is Vice-President of the Council of the Republic (Upper Chamber).

All four candidates are staying in the race for the third ballot which, at the moment, seems unlikely to produce decisive results.

POSSIBILITIES
If, however, tomorrow's ballot showed a definite trend in favour of one or two candidates, it is quite likely that the race may be narrowed down to two, which could give a decisive vote in a fourth ballot tomorrow afternoon.

In the lobbies tonight there was little optimism that the elusive results would be reached so easily and some circles were of the opinion that 60-year-old President Vincent Auriol, who has consistently stated that he will not become a candidate, might be asked to stand for re-election.

It was considered certain here that President Auriol would not offer his decision if it meant standing for election with other candidates. Only a withdrawal by all candidates in favour of the President, it was stated, would give M. Auriol another seven-year term.

LATEST TRENDS
Latest trends on today's voting appeared to indicate that almost all of the Uras votes went either to M. Naegelen or to M. Laniel. It was certain that all the Socialist and Communist votes were placed behind M. Naegelen.

M. Laniel, it was stated, probably received the votes which, on the first ballot, had gone to M. Jacques Fournere (Independent), as well as about 60 or more Uras votes.

M. Delbos benefited from the withdrawal of M. Jean Medecin of the Radical bloc.

M. Bidault increased his total on the second ballot by only 12 votes over his total in the first.—France-Press.

Mr Eden Details British Policy

London, Dec. 17.

Britain was eager to bring about an agreement in Korea and to set up a political conference to deal with the question of prisoners of war, the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden, told the House of Commons today at the close of the debate on foreign affairs.

Mr Eden added that, arising from such an agreement, the British government would work to secure a settlement of wider problems, including Indo-China.

Dealing other main points of British policy, the Foreign Secretary said it was British policy to build up deterrents to aggression and to establish a position of strength from which it would be possible to negotiate at least an easing of the present tension and, if possible, a settlement of disputes with the Soviet Union.

Mr Eden re-affirmed Britain's reliance in NATO and added that, within the framework of that organisation, it was still the government's hope that a European defence community would be formed. France, he said, had to make her decision on this.

The Foreign Secretary told the House that the international situation was now going through a very serious and critical period. Very important events, he added, could occur at any time.

He expressed the hope that the Soviet government would accept the proposal of President Eisenhower to form an atomic pool through international discussions in the spirit in which the suggestion had been made and in a very serious effort to solve the present extremely dangerous situation.

CONFIDENT
The Foreign Secretary declared: "I am confident that the Soviet government will come to these discussions, which have no pre-conditions of any sort, to discuss these problems under United Nations auspices. They will not find the United States ungenerous in the spirit in which so far as Her Majesty's governments in Britain and Canada are concerned, we shall do everything to bring about the success of the discussions."

Mr Eden categorically declared that Britain was not prepared to break off negotiations with the Egyptian government and that it was the government's policy to continue talks with Egypt. Answering Conservative MPs, who had demanded the breaking off of negotiations with Egypt, Mr Eden said, under the existing circumstances, negotiations should continue until the threads of an agreement had been reached. "I am not prepared to postpone the negotiations or delay them over the Christmas holidays, or anything else," Mr Eden declared.

TWO MAJOR POINTS
The Foreign Secretary said that there were two major points outstanding. One concerned the availability of the base in time of need, and the other the uniforms to be worn by British troops remaining in the base. Both of these, he said, were major issues.

Mr Eden said that, on both of them, the British government had made its position clear to the Egyptian government—and that position stood. "It may be said, 'I understand that, but we think this will be a mistake because an Anglo-Egyptian treaty can be of real advantage to both our countries and for peace in the Middle East.'"

If an agreement could not be reached, Mr Eden added, then the British government would have to re-consider its whole position in the light of Britain's needs, her interests and obligations. "I can assure the House," he continued, "that we shall face the situation resolutely. If it arises but our firm policy is to see it is possible to achieve a reasonable solution. That, no more and no less, is what we are trying to do." —France-Press.

Tomorrow's Christmas Issue

Tomorrow, Saturday, the China Mail publishes its Christmas issue.

A bumper-sized paper of 24 pages, it will contain a wide array of seasonal features that possess a special attraction for all members of the family.

Two Yuletide short stories—one for adults, the other for children—are included. One of the most interesting special articles is that dealing with the Queen's Christmas which she and the Duke of Edinburgh will be spending in Auckland, New Zealand. Make sure you do not miss tomorrow's China Mail.

Kidnappers Questioned About New Murder

Jefferson City, Miss., Dec. 17.

Carl Austin Hall and Bonnie Brown Heady were questioned about another murder today during their last hours before they die in the gas chamber for the kidnap-slaying of Bobby Greenlease.

The Buchanan County prosecuting attorney, Mr John Downs, entered Death Row to question Hall and Mrs Heady about the brutal slaying last August of Mary Jane Nester, a wealthy spinster.

A man resembling Hall had been seen near where Miss Nester was killed about the time of the murder, it was said. Mr James Bennett, Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, gave permission for the eleven-hour questioning.

Mr Downs said both were calm although it was less than 15 hours before their scheduled execution at one minute past midnight. Mrs Heady had her hair curled when Mr Downs talked to her and Hall was shaving with a safety razor, under the watchful eye of a prison guard.

CONVINCED
Mr Downs talked with both Hall and Mrs Heady and then said he was convinced Hall had nothing to do with the Nester slaying.

He said Hall told him: "If it would please you, I could attest to anything. But I know you don't want that, and it wouldn't do anyone good."

Mrs Heady said she was certain Hall had not committed the Nester murder. She said Hall told her many times that a man is a "fool to mess around with pretty crime."

The doomed kidnappers spent a busy final day. Ten hours before they were to die in the gas chamber, they met, with prison bars between them, and talked animatedly for 30 minutes.

Mrs Heady, wearing a pink dressing gown, spent part of the day reading a religious book and Hall had several pocket-sized Western novels in his cell.

Mrs Heady told Mr Downs she was quite concerned over her prize-winning boxer dog. She said she had thought of having him "put to sleep, too" but had received "too many complaints". —United Press.

Leaves To Avoid Deportation

Washington, Dec. 17.

United States Attorney General Herbert Brownell said today that Mrs Frederick Vanderbilt Field had left the United States of her own free will recently, in order to avoid deportation by the American authorities.

Mrs Field has frequently been said to have given financial aid to leftist organisations. She and her two children, who are Canadian citizens, went to Mexico last December 7, said Mr Brownell.

Mrs Field had been arrested pending deportation proceedings at the beginning of this year, as the American immigration authorities considered her entry papers invalid.—France-Press.

6 Missing Men From Crashed Plane Reach Haven

Lake Manuan, Quebec, Dec. 17.

Six men, missing since their transport plane crash-landed in the Quebec wilderness 11 days ago, walked into a bush camp here today, unharmed by their ordeal.

More than 20 search planes had criss-crossed the area today in what was to have been a final major attempt to find them.

A single-engined bush plane was standing by tonight at Seven Islands, Quebec, 200 miles east of this tiny Transport Department weather reporting sub-station, to fly the men out at daybreak tomorrow.

Their plane, an Anson transport built as a twin-engined World War II trainer for the Royal Canadian Air Force, was flown by George Stapley of Seven Islands, a veteran bush pilot.

His passengers were Doug Dolby, Garnet Moody and Wilmer Tubman of Toronto, Cliff Burley of Thessalon, Ontario, and Joe McKinnon of Middleton, Nova Scotia. All the passengers worked for the Hollinger Mining Company and were being flown out to spend Christmas at their homes in Eastern Canada.

The Anson disappeared on December 6 on what was to have been a 90-minute, 225-mile flight from Ross Bay, Labrador, to Seven Islands. Weather in the area was bad at the time and the plane was unable to complete the trip.

WALK INTO CAMP

A Hollinger Company spokesman said all six men walked into the camp here at 4.15 p.m., ending a search that had included United States and Canadian Air Force units and private planes that hunted on and off for them since the day after their disappearance.

The Anson carried emergency food and medical supplies in common with most other planes that fly over sparsely-settled parts of Canada. The carefully rationed food had just about run out when the men reached here.

They had made their way out of the bush on foot, camped overnight in whatever shelter they could find and plodded toward Lake Manuan by day.

The daytime temperature seldom was higher than freezing and at times during the night it plummeted to below zero.

The experience of the six men marked the second time in a few months that a plane had been lost in the Quebec wilderness and its passengers and crew ultimately reached safety. Late last autumn, seven men, including a German and a Dutchman, were rescued from a similar plight when they stayed with their downed plane, which had become lost and run out of gas.—United Press.

COLONIES' ASSETS GROW

London, Dec. 16.

British colonies sterling holdings rose from £670 million to £1,222 million between 1949 and 1953, according to a White Paper published by the British Government here today.

In the six months to June 1953, colonies' assets rose a further £62,000,000, says the Paper.

These assets are "part of the financial reserves of the Colonial governments and peoples. The reserves can be withdrawn at will and there is no question of their being 'blocked,'" the Paper adds.

"The colonies have been helped to accumulate sterling assets by investment from the United Kingdom and other countries," the White Paper states.—Reuter.

29 Stranded Fishermen Starving

Manila, Dec. 18.

Twenty-nine Japanese crew members of the fishing boat Yamataka Maru, stuck off Curimao town, Ilocos Norte province, were reported to be starving due to legal complications involved in the procurement of their food.

Army authorities here received reports that the food supply of the crew had been exhausted and the Japanese had no Philippine currency to buy food.—France-Press.

ISMAI TO RESIGN?

Paris, Dec. 17.

Lord Ismay may resign as Secretary-General of the 14-nation Atlantic Pact Organisation next year.

He will probably tell the Council some time during the summer that he would like to retire and ask them to nominate a successor, usually well-informed sources here said.

Lord Ismay, one of Sir Winston Churchill's closest advisers in World War II, wants to give up public life and return to his farm in the Cotswolds, it was learned.

British sources here said Sir Winston Churchill and top representatives of other countries talked Lord Ismay out of announcing this autumn his wish to resign.

An official NATO spokesman, commenting on a London report that Lord Ismay intended to resign early next year, said: "There is no question of his leaving within the next six or eight months."

Lord Ismay took on the Secretary-Generalship last year after the Atlantic Council created the post at its February conference in London. The Secretary carries with its Chairmanship of the Pact's Permanent Council in Paris.—Reuter.

40-Propagandists Arrested

Cairo, Dec. 18.

The Egyptian Public Security Department early today announced the arrest of 40 people engaged in "dangerous activity" among workers, students and junior officials.

The communiqué said the arrests were made after the ring leaders and their accomplices had been discovered. Printing machines and a large number of pamphlets ready for distribution were seized, it added.—Reuter.

Wanted For Camp Crimes

Panmunjom, Dec. 17.

Six of 22 American prisoners who refuse repatriation are wanted for prison camp crimes and will be court-martialed if they return, an informed source said today.

The sources said that of the 22, United Nations explainers believe only five will accept repatriation. Twelve of the men are "hard core" Communists, and the other six are wanted for prison camp crimes.

The six men are mostly "equals" or "rats" who informed on their buddies in prison so as to get better treatment from the Communists.

As a result of their activities, many of their fellow prisoners were killed.

One of the American prisoners, the source said, is known to have pushed a GI over a cliff during a Communist forced march to the North.

United Nations explainers will not promise immunity to these men if they accept repatriation, the source said, but may even tell them outright that they are wanted for murder.

The best that can be promised is a fair trial.

One American prisoner who accepted repatriation during Operation Big Switch is now in custody in the United States charged with murdering two of his fellow POWs.—United Press.

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SEARCH FOR US REDS

Thompson In Gaol But Five Fugitives Still Sought By The FBI

Grumbling In The Party

Washington, Dec. 17.

The FBI, with Communist Party leader Robert Thompson safely in prison for the next seven years, today pushed its search for five other Communist Party fugitives with convictions or indictments pending against them.

The FBI refused to discuss the matter or to speculate on the whereabouts of the five. But other Justice Department sources said that there was no evidence to justify speculation that some of them might have fled the country for the Soviet Union.

The five are Gilbert Green, Henry Winston, Fred Morris, James E. Jackson, Jr., and William M. Marron.

Green, Chairman of the Communist Party in Illinois, and Winston, the Party's organizational secretary, are like Thompson, members of the group of 11 Party leaders convicted in New York in 1949 of conspiring to teach the violent overthrow of the U.S. Government.

Like Thompson, they failed to surrender in 1951 to begin serving the prison terms imposed upon them. They have been fugitives ever since.

MOUNTAIN HIDEOUT

Thompson, arrested by the FBI last August in a mountain hideout in California, was sentenced in New York yesterday to serve an additional four-year term for contempt of court. His 1949 conviction brought a sentence of three years in prison.

The three other fugitives—Fino, Jackson and Marron—were among 21 so-called "second string" Party leaders indicted in New York in June, 1951, on Smith Act charges similar to those that led to the conviction of the top 11.

Four of the 21 evaded arrest following their indictment. One, Sidney Steinberg, was arrested last August in company with Thompson.

COMMON CRIMINALS

Government experts on Communism said that they believe top-flying Party leaders now regret that they permitted these fugitives to flee the jurisdiction of the courts. They were said to feel that the fugitives, by evading arrest, have placed themselves in the role of common criminals.

They said that Party leaders now believe it would have been better for Communism if all those convicted had played "the hard line" by going to prison and serving their terms.

They said that the Reds were also concerned by the discreet grumbling among the rank-and-file of the Party over various additional financial burdens—in the form of bail forfeitures and various "collections"—imposed upon them as a result of their leaders' flight.—United Press.

Independence Of Cambodia Blow To Rebels

Phnom Penh, Dec. 17.

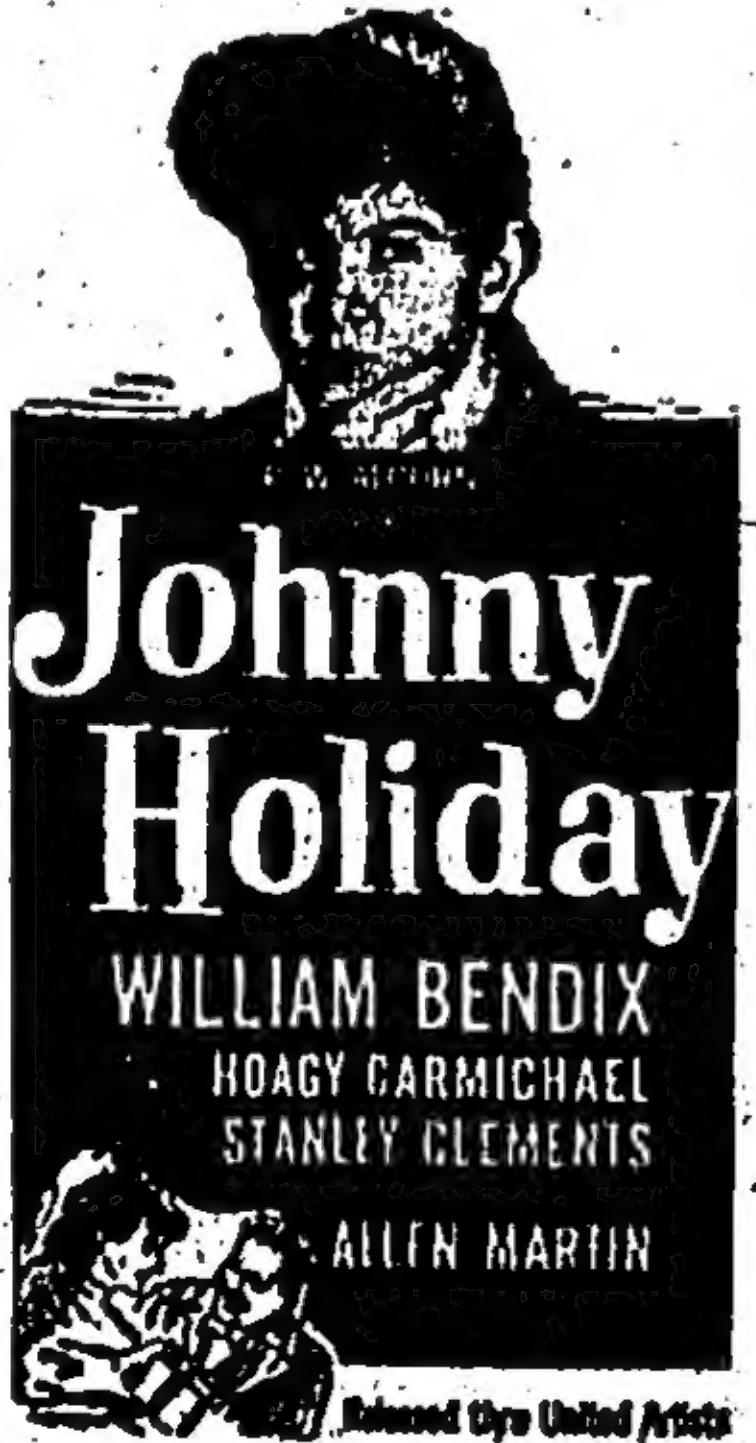
The Cambodian Defence Minister, Khim Tii, told the press today the independence just acquired by Cambodia "has caused the Vietminh to lose the psychological war being waged in the country for many years."

Khim Tii believed that the Vietminh would continue the fight against the Cambodian forces "until the very end." "We will have to drive them beyond our borders by force," he said.

Reviewing Cambodia's military situation, Khim Tii said that the Royal Cambodian Army now numbered 17,000 men, and would be increased to 22,000 men by the end of 1955. He said in addition there would be a reserve force of 15,000 men.

Khim Tii said that at present the military situation was quiet throughout the country, except in the province of Kampu in Southern Cambodia, where a number of Vietminh rebels were reported to have infiltrated.

In reply to a question, he said that altogether, an estimated 10,000 Vietminh rebels had infiltrated into Cambodia, but that only a part of them was believed to be adequately equipped. He added that his government had decided to establish compulsory military service to reduce the excessive military expenditures involved in the maintenance of a professional army.—France-Press.

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Churchill's Speech Hailed In America & Belgium

Washington, Dec. 17.

Sir Winston Churchill's speech today was hailed in official circles here as finally putting to rest persistent reports that the British Prime Minister had only given reluctant approval at the Bermuda conference to President Eisenhower's United Nations address promulgating his plan for a world pool of atomic materials.

Reports emanating from the Bermuda conference in both the British and United States had stated that Sir Winston when he was shown a draft of the speech at the opening stages of the Big Three conference at Bermuda had advised against Mr. Eisenhower making it at this time and had urged that it be toned down.

In view of the impressions given by these reports, administration officials today particularly welcomed the enthusiastic terms in which Sir Winston described the Eisenhower plan to the House of Commons and his appeal to the Soviet Union to co-operate in it.

There is as yet no official reaction to Sir Winston's endorsement of the warning to France by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles of the consequences of not ratifying the European Defence Community treaty.

But Sir Winston's endorsement of both this and the Eisenhower plan are taken here as demonstration of the solidarity achieved at Bermuda between Britain and the United States.—Reuters.

"IN HARMONY"

Government sources said tonight that Sir Winston Churchill's statement in the House of Commons today was "in harmony with Belgian policy."

They recalled the speech made by M. Paul Van Zeeland, Belgian Foreign Minister, to the recent Paris meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation ministers which he said that non-aggression guarantees must be given to Russia for although we are sure we want peace we must not forget that the Kremlin as well as Russian public opinion is often convinced of the contrary.—Reuters.

IRAQ'S MINERAL RESOURCES

Bagdad, Dec. 18.

Sayid Ali Haidar Sulaiman, Minister for Development, said here that a survey of Iraq's mineral resources is to start immediately the Development Board approves the tender from a foreign firm.

The survey, according to the Minister, will collect and review records and correlate existing reports, records and available data on the subject.

It will also carry out geological examinations, survey and studies in the field and submit reports complete with maps, drawings and other illustrations containing recommendations for exploration, testing and development.—China Mail Special.

FORTUNES FOR KOREA HANDYMEN

Seoul, Dec. 17.

A man with a saw and a hammer can make a small fortune in the ravaged capital of South Korea today.

With only about 8,000 of the city's original 600,000 homes intact there is no shortage of work for the handyman.

No funds have been allocated for reconstruction and Seoul's return to normal has been left to the enthusiasm of the population.

Wooden ammunition cases are their chief help—plus the thousands of skilled, non-skilled and unskilled carpenters who have acquired a saw, a hammer and a bag of nails.

They can make as much as \$10 a day—a big money in impoverished Korea.—China Mail Special.

M. Aurio's X'mas Party For 400 Children

Paris, Dec. 17.

While the political leaders of France at Versailles were striving to name the new occupant of the presidential Elysee Palace, the Palace itself was ringing with the laughter of 400 schoolchildren.

The outgoing President M. Vincent Aurio and Mme Aurio were giving a Christmas party complete with marionettes, jugglers, and Santa Claus.

The children who came from state institutions, included many war orphans. There was a present for each, and a kind word from Santa Claus, who was taken from table to table by the President himself.

Afterwards in a little speech M. Aurio told the children: "Father Christmas comes down the chimney to give away his traditional presents to you. At Versailles, he is going to make France a present of a new President"—France-Press.

S. African Stamps

Pretoria, Dec. 18.

Special two penny and fourpenny postage stamps, commemorating the centenary of the founding of the Orange Free State, will be issued at all post offices in the Union for about three months from February 23 next.

The design shows the coat of arms of the Free State, with a quill, pen and a scroll bearing the dates 1854-1954.—Reuters.

20,000 MILES PER HOUR SPACE PLANES

Washington, Dec. 17.

The veteran aircraft manufacturer, Mr. Glenn Martin, a pioneer in the American aeronautical industry forecast today that inter-special planes would reach a speed of 20,000 miles per hour during the next 30 years.

He made this statement during the ceremonies held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first flight of the Wrights.

Mr. Martin recently resigned the chairmanship of the Glenn Martin Aircraft Company which he founded half a century ago. He predicted that jet transport planes carrying some 200 passengers would be able to cross continents and oceans in a westward direction at 1,000 miles per hour, thus following the sun with practically no loss of time.

He also believed that in future, atom-propelled aircraft would be capable of circling the globe in non-stop flights.—France-Press.

HIS LAST KISS

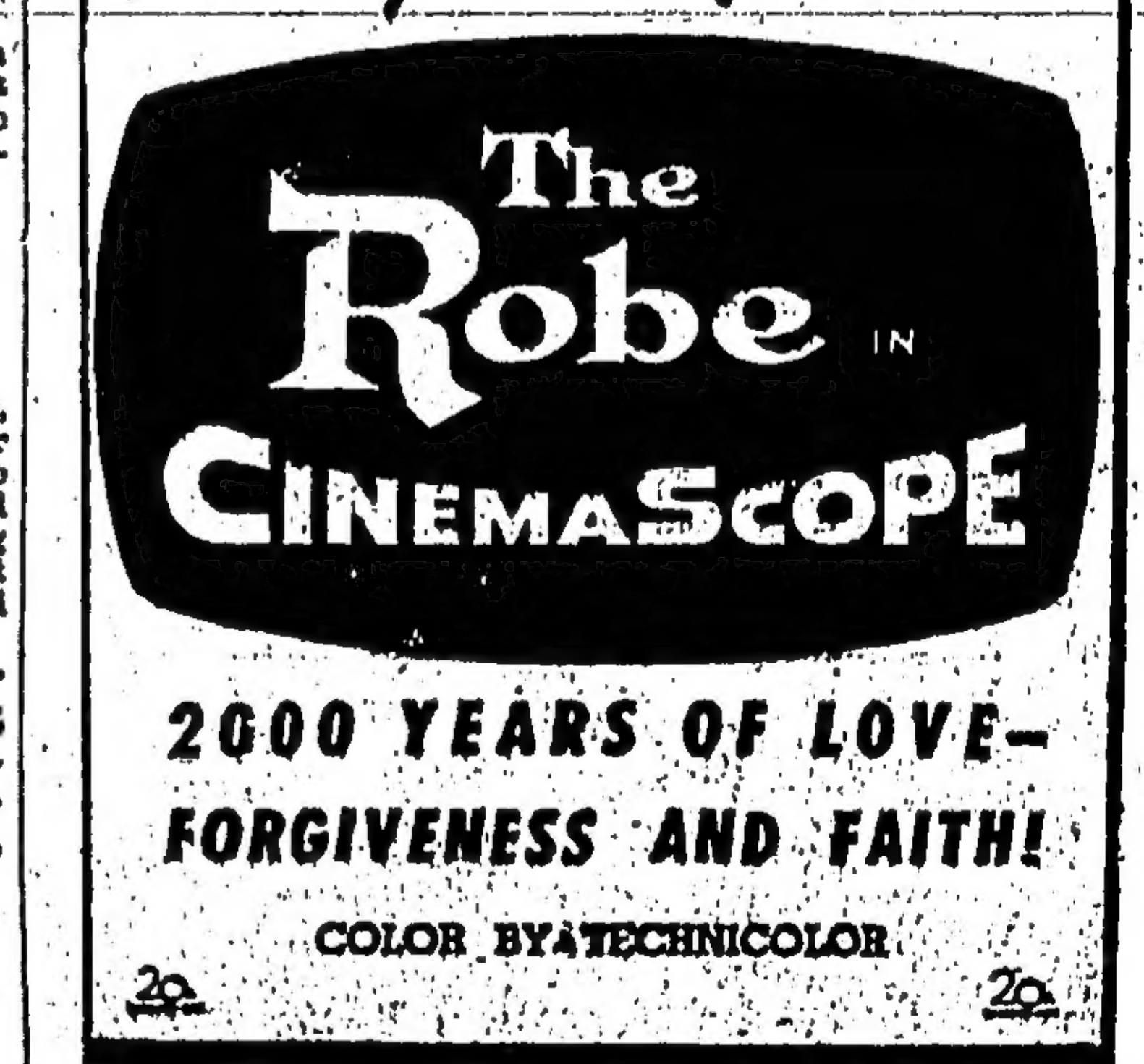
Chicago, Dec. 17.

Mrs. Patricia Kolarik, 19, won an annulment of her marriage yesterday after she testified that her husband kissed her on their wedding day last May 23 and had not kissed her since.—United Press.

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POP

'Super-charged Chickens'

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Dec. 17.

Professor W. J. Rae reported today that radio-active hens had been stolen from the University of Saskatchewan, but he would not accept the blame for some one's super-charged Christmas chicken.

"That's for him to worry about," he said. "My chief concern is that this theft could ruin a full year's experiment." — United Press.

REPUBLICAN PROGRAMME

Eisenhower Lists Accomplishments During Office

Washington, Dec. 17.

President Eisenhower told Republican congressional leaders today that "the American people have vested in the Republican Party the responsibility of government. With that responsibility we have a great opportunity to advance the welfare of our country. Now let's go to work."

The meeting was behind closed doors but the President's statement was made public. It was the first of three days of conference on his 1954 legislative programme.

Mr. Eisenhower told the group he had called the meeting to seek the advice of the leaders on the legislative programme which he will set out in his State of the Union and Budget messages.

The Budget and economic messages will go to Congress after the State of the Union message. Mr. Eisenhower will deliver only the State of the Union message in person.

SEVEN POINTS

Mr. Eisenhower listed these points as accomplishments in 1953:

1. Stopped the shooting and casualty list in Korea.
2. Reduced by \$13,000,000,000 the previous administration's request for new appropriations.
3. Cleared the way for January tax reductions in personal income taxes and excess profits taxes.
4. Stabilized the purchasing power of the citizen's dollar and stopped inflation.
5. Removed stifling controls on "our" economy.
6. Extended emergency aid to agriculture and assisted those in drought affected areas.
7. Removed security risks from federal service on the simple premise that those disloyal to or unsuitable for Federal Government cannot work for it.

The President asked the Congressmen to keep confidential the discussions at the White House conferences during the next three days.

He said that to give the public information and "minimize speculation" on the proceedings, "I shall make a statement at the end of each day in which I shall give a general report on how the meeting progressed as well as the names of those who attended each session." — Reuter.

RHEE'S NORTHERN CRUSADE PLANS CHANGING
A Win For US Policy?

Seoul, Dec. 17.

President Syngman Rhee's proposal for elections throughout Korea has been taken here as one of many indications that the threat of a "Puk Chin" (March North) has diminished.

Observers here point to several factors which, they say, have suggested recently that he will not stand in the way of general elections throughout Korea.

Korean Government officials have said, in private, that the President is persuaded that this could be a formula for the peaceful unification of Korea if put forward by the United Nations side at the Korean Political Conference.

The officials said that the man who persuaded Dr. Rhee was United States Vice-President, Mr. Richard Nixon, who visited Korea recently.

Dr. Rhee and his outspoken Foreign Minister, Pyun Yung Tai, have remained silent in recent weeks about the previously much-advocated "Puk-Chin."

Dr. Rhee and his Government promised to observe the armistice until January 27, 1954. The Korean Political Conference must decide before that date how to unify Korea by peaceful means. If the Conference does not come up with a solution by January 27, the South Koreans threatened to march north—alone "if necessary."

NATIONAL SUICIDE

Observers here believe that Dr. Rhee knew, even while threatening to wreck the armistice, that unilateral action on his part could only result in national suicide for South Korea.

Many United Nations officials here think that Dr. Rhee used these threats merely as a bargaining weapon. He wanted to win concessions, and, at the same time, sound out American opinion about any renewal of the war.

Arguments against a "Puk-Chin" were:

1. Any aggressive act by South Korea would provide the Communists with a big propaganda weapon. The United Nations would find it virtually impossible to continue to help a country which had been branded as an aggressor.
2. United Nations countries participating in the war would be unlikely to keep their forces in Korea even if the United Nations as a body decided to continue to aid the country.
3. Dr. Rhee could not depend on his army. The army was far from being a first class fighting force. South Korea's military leaders knew this, and most of them remained unimpressed by the oratory in Seoul. They would not commit their troops to a hopeless fight.

OTHER FACTORS

Other factors have been:

When the United States Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, visited Korea late last summer, he told Dr. Rhee that the United States was prepared to go so far and no further in supporting the Republic of Korea.

Korea, Dr. Rhee won one of his main objectives—an alliance with the United States. Continued threats would bring him no benefit and might be harmful.

The Korean people, particularly the merchants and landowners, are tired of the war. They have had their first taste of peace in three years. They like it.

This year's rice crop is the best in years. It could not be a better time to start rebuilding the country.

His proposal for general elections, however, has been taken as a peaceful gesture.

Dr. Rhee had previously been strongly opposed to general elections covering North and South Korea on the grounds that the Republic of Korea had sovereignty over North Korea, in principle if not in fact.

The President had maintained that elections should be held only in North Korea, to fill 100 seats reserved in the National Assembly since the United Nations created the Republic in 1948. — China Mail Special.

Mrs Hirota Committed Suicide

Tokyo, Dec. 17.

The death in 1948 of Mrs. Koki Hirota, wife of the wartime Prime Minister executed in 1948 as a war criminal, was today announced as a suicide.

Mrs. Hirota's death had previously been credited to heart failure. It was said that she took the action to encourage her husband, then on trial for war crimes.

The announcement was made by Tadashi Nani, former defence counsel for Hirota and at present head of the Tokyo Higher Procurator's Office.

Mrs. Hirota, then 62 years of age, took her own life at her home at Kugenuma on May 18, 1948, shortly after her husband had been put on trial before the International Military Tribunal for the Far East.

The announcement said that Mrs. Hirota made up her mind to kill herself after a meeting with her husband at Sugamo Prison. — United Press.

Survey Of Egypt

Berkeley, Calif., Dec. 17.

The University of California announced today that Dr. Parker D. Trask, lecturer in geological engineering, has departed for Egypt "where he will conduct an important geological survey of the country."

The announcement added, "Dr. Trask will make the survey as a consultant for the State Department and the United States Geological Survey, of which group Dr. Trask had been a member for 15 years."

The geological survey of Egypt will be made in response to requests from the Egyptian Government for help in developing the mineral resources of that country." — United Press.

ARTHUR DEAN IN AMERICA

San Francisco, Dec. 17.

The United States representative in the Panmunjom preliminary talks, Mr. Arthur Dean, arrived here today on his way to Washington.

Mr. Dean said that he had learned from a highly reliable source that the Communists had offered an American prisoner a Cadillac automobile, US\$5,000, and free tuition in a university if he refused to be repatriated.

He added that a letter sent by one of the prisoners to his mother had been written by the British Communist journalist, Alan Winnington, of the "Daily Worker," said William Bulchett, of the French Communist newspaper, "Humanite." — United Press.

Diplomats And Arms

New Delhi, Dec. 18.

Diplomats in India must obtain special permission from the Government if they wish to carry arms, Mr. B. N. Datar, Deputy Home Minister, told Parliament here.

The Government had only given such permission 24 times in the past three years, he added. — China Mail Special.

Robertson's Itinerary Not Known

Washington, Dec. 17.

The details of the itinerary of the United States Under-Secretary of State for Eastern Affairs, Mr. Walter Robertson, who is to proceed to Manila to attend President-elect Ramon Magway's inauguration, are not known yet.

Official circles here said, however, that while in Tokyo, the Under-Secretary of State would see the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, in Seoul he would see South Korean President Syngman Rhee, and in Taipei, he would meet Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

IMPORTANT TOUR

Diplomatic observers stressed the importance of the tour at a time when the preliminary discussions at Panmunjom had been suspended, when large-scale Japanese rearmament was receiving major attention in Washington and in view of the belief that the new Philippine President Ramon Magway would play a leading role in arousing the free states in the Far East against Communism.

Mr. Robertson is to leave Washington on Saturday for Manila by way of Tokyo, Seoul, and Taipei. He will be accompanied by the Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Arthur Radford. — France-Press.

London, Dec. 17.

Princess Margaret will probably buy a car in the near future.

At present she has no car of her own and always uses one of those belonging to the Queen Mother. The Princess has been inspecting several cars recently. — China Mail Special.

QUEEN AND DUKE RECEIVE FIJANS AT STATE BALL

Suva, Fiji, Dec. 17.

Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, both wearing full evening dress with the sash of the Star of the Garter, received many Fijians and Europeans at a State ball here tonight.

But neither danced, and shortly after 11 p.m. they went into the hotel gardens to see rockets fired over the water honouring their visit.

Half an hour later they returned to the Gothic to spend the night before beginning the second day of their tour.

For Fijians the two days of the Queen's visit are the greatest since the 322 islands were ceded to Queen Victoria in 1874.

Thousands of Fijians, many from outlying islands who have flocked to greet the first reigning British monarch visiting them, have done little but cheer, shout and clap excitedly, forgetting the local tradition of the silent welcome for honoured guests.

In Albert Park they watched excitedly as the Queen and the Duke, surrounded by Fijian chiefs in bark skirts and garlands of flowers, drank kava, a South Sea island beverage, from coconut shells. Though many newcomers say kava tastes like soapy water, the Queen and the Duke drank with every indication of pleasure.

USAGES & CUSTOMS

The Queen in a lemon yellow frock and white petal hat told the chiefs: "When your forefathers ceded the sovereignty of these islands to the British Crown they gave it unreservedly to Queen Victoria for they trusted her to govern you righteously and in accordance with native usages and customs."

"Your loyalty and devotion to the throne are well known far beyond these shores and I assure you that from the island which you call 'Isle of Men' I constantly watch over your welfare and pray for your prosperity in years to come."

She was then presented with Fijian goods and food representing a feast formerly given to honoured guests. The food heaped in the shade of weeping fig trees

— roast pigs, slices of pork, turtles, native roots and bananas. Local boy scouts and guides presented gifts from Fijian people. For the Queen there was a gold ring set with local grey pearls, emeralds and diamonds. For the Duke a walking stick of Fijian wood.

They were also given a model war canoe for Prince Charles and a Fijian doll and basket for Princess Anne. — Reuter.

FAIR SUDAN ELECTION

Cairo, Dec. 17.

Mr. Sukumar Sen, Chairman of the Sudan Electoral Commission, today declared himself satisfied that the Sudanese people had a free and fair election.

He said that as a technician he was not concerned about whether the Sudanese were under the political influence of one or other of the interested parties. He was replying to a question at a press conference as to whether he knew of any British or Egyptian interference in the elections.

Mr. Sen said he considered the greatest single achievement of the Sudan election experiment was to have succeeded in bringing the individual to cast his vote whether in direct or indirect election.

Even if backward Sudanese only vaguely understood the meaning of the election, the fact that they were interested in voting should be regarded as an "achievement." Next time the Sudanese will know better and next time there will be no indirect elections, he said. — Reuter.

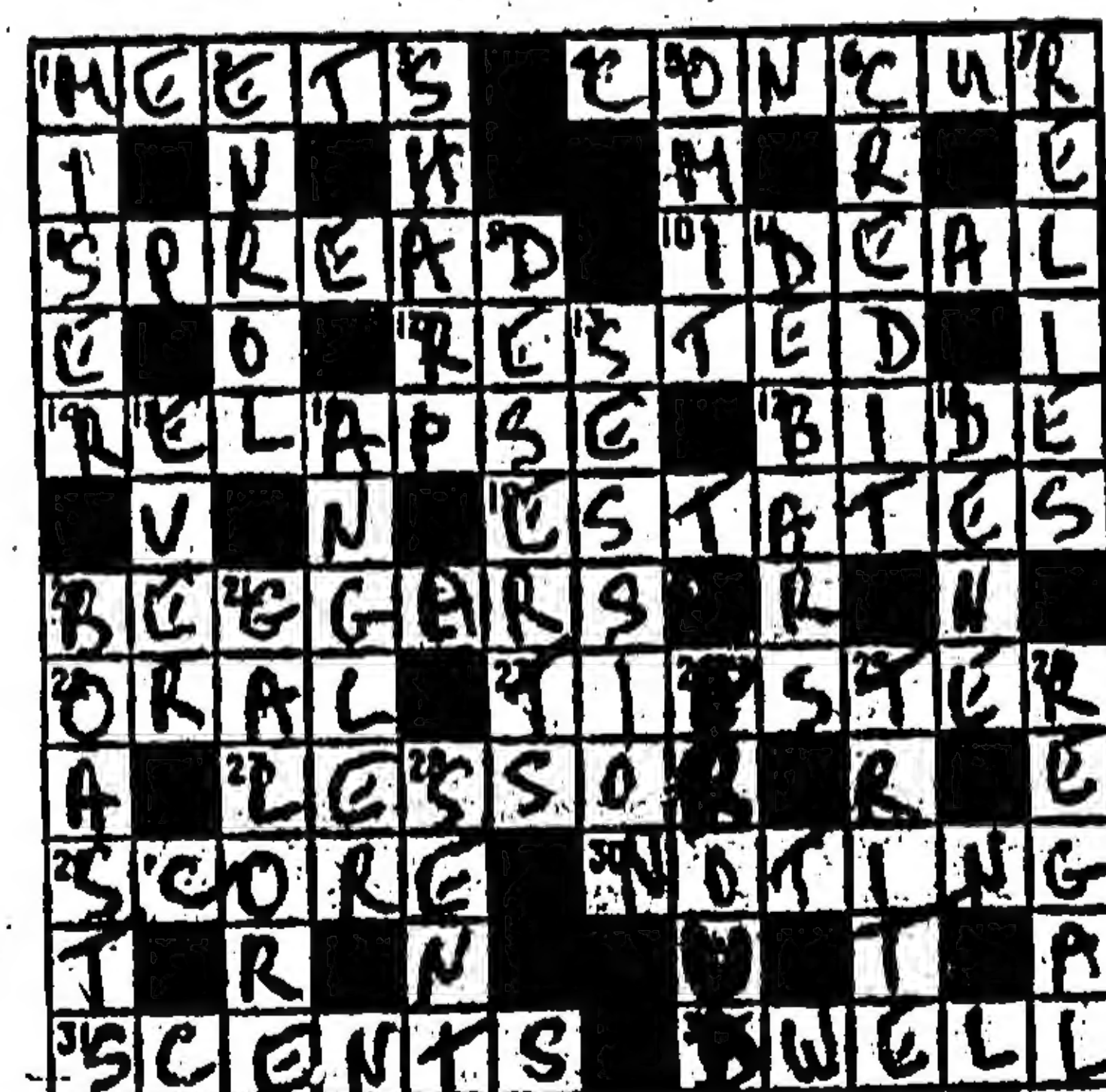
Instructions To Ministers

Seoul, Dec. 17.

South Korean Prime Minister Paik Chi Chon issued a list of instructions to cabinet ministers on how to behave in the presence of foreign guests.

The list reads:

1. "All persons meeting foreign guests should maintain a solemn atmosphere."
2. "Do not overload guests with too many flowers or bouquets."
3. "Give guests a good send-off as well as a good welcome. Do not wreck nine days of good work by one of carelessness."
4. "Two or three cabinet ministers should share one vehicle so as to limit the number of automobiles meeting guests at Seoul airport." — China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS:**
- 1 Encounters (5).
 - 4 Agree (6).
 - 8 Extend (6).
 - 10 Perfect (5).
 - 12 Reposed (5).
 - 14 Fall back (7).
 - 17 Wait (4).
 - 19 Landed property (7).
 - 20 Mendicants (7).
 - 22 Spoken (4).
 - 23 Race track (7).
 - 27 Landlord (5).
 - 29 Scratch (5).
 - 30 Observing (6).
 - 31 Aromas (6).
 - 32 Reside (5).

- DOWN:**
- 1 Skinfint (5).
 - 2 Enlist (5).
 - 3 Acute (5).
 - 5 Fail to include (4).
 - 6 Believe (6).
 - 7 Depends (6).
 - 9 Abandons (7).
 - 11 Excludes (7).
 - 13 Slitting (7).
 - 15 Always (4).
 - 16 Faberian (6).
 - 18 Valley (4).
 - 20 Brags (5).
 - 21 In abundance (6).
 - 24 Haughty (5).
 - 25 Commemorate (5).
 - 26 Royal (5).
 - 28 Despatched (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 3 Isolates, 8 Overt, 9 Register, 11 Radiator, 13 Prop, 15 Impaired, 18 Desisted, 19 Slay, 21 Silenced, 25 Animated, 26 Grip, 27 Distract, Down: 1 Dour, 2 Usual, 4 Suet, 5 Laid, 6 Tutor, 7 Brawl, 9 Fabled, 10 Gores, 12 Admit, 14 Overt, 15 Ramble, 17 Dived, 19 Staid, 20 Amble, 21 Sage, 22 Lean, 23 Core, 24 Dope.

Announcing TOMORROW

Make Your Reservations Early for CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S EVES

DINE & DANCE IN A DELIGHTFUL COZY ATMOSPHERE!

You are very welcome to Enjoy perfect Entertainment in our—

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YUEN CHEONG & CO.

15 Ice House Street, Hongkong.

TUDOR
by ROLEX

a name to remember

IF YOU WANT TO
REALLY PLEASE HER THIS CHRISTMAS!

FROM Lane, Crawford & CO. OR OTHER LEADING WATCH DEALERS

Colonel UP and Mr. DOWN... by Walter



BY THE WAY... by Beachcomber

SOMEONE has suggested that planes should spray the London fog with "detergent". This, it is said, would turn the fog into nice clean rain.

I would go further and far more, if the rain could be turned to snow. By spraying artificial clouds with dry ice, life would be a little more cheerful. The only question, however, is whether the one with which I propose to deal, effective as a group of enormous vacuum cleaners, would not be a little too much for the people in it. The fog is a nuisance, but it is a nuisance that has been with us for a long time. It is a nuisance that has been with us for a long time. It is a nuisance that has been with us for a long time.

The Huntingdonshire

ARRANGEMENTS are being made to televise selections from the forthcoming revised edition of the "List of Huntingdonshire Cabmen." This is a step forward. On the radio, one only hears the names, read in a rather monotonous voice, and it is difficult to remember them. On television, however, the cabmen, and their names, are shown in all their glory. It is a pity that the names are not shown in all their glory. It is a pity that the names are not shown in all their glory. It is a pity that the names are not shown in all their glory.

Printer's frolic

The great shop berthed without incident.

(News Item.)

NOT a bad description of a modern liner, which has on board everything except a blacksmith's forge and a sawmill.

explains the complaint of the lady in the lift. She had been given, by mistake, the cabin from which the sea was visible.

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JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Alertness Pays In Tough Bridge Hand

NORTH (D)			
♠ A	♠ 10	♠ 9	♠ 8
♥ K 3 2	♥ 10	♥ 9	♥ 8
♦ K 3 2	♦ 10	♦ 9	♦ 8
♣ A Q	♣ 10	♣ 9	♣ 8
WEST			
♠ Q 10 8 7 5	♠ 4	♠ 3	♠ 2
♥ 9 8	♥ 7	♥ 6	♥ 5
♦ K 10 7	♦ 6	♦ 5	♦ 4
♣ 8 6 3	♣ 5	♣ 4	♣ 3
SOUTH			
♠ K 9 2	♠ 7	♠ 6	♠ 5
♥ A 7 4	♥ 5	♥ 4	♥ 3
♦ A 7 4	♦ 5	♦ 4	♦ 3
♣ 7 5 4	♣ 5	♣ 4	♣ 3
North-South vul.			
♠ North	♠ South	♠ West	♠ East
1 ♠	2 ♠	3 ♠	4 ♠
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♠ 7			

By OSWALD JACOBY

SOUTH deserved a better fate. In today's hand, he saw through a deceptive play by West and took the best possible measure at every step. Unfortunately for South, however, West was equally alert, and the breaks were in West's favour.

West opened the seven of spades, and declarer allowed East to hold the first trick with the jack. He won the spade return in dummy with the ace, naturally enough, and tried a diamond finesse.

West casually played a low diamond, hoping that his king would not be forced out until he had managed to establish his spades.

If South had been careless, he would have switched to clubs, losing a finesse to East. East would then lead his last spade, forcing out declarer's king. West would gain the lead with his king of diamonds. In time to set the contract with his long spades.

West avoided this trap by leading a heart to dummy in order to try a second diamond finesse. West had to take his king of diamonds, and this meant the end of his ambition to bring in his long spade suit. His only chance was to return a heart—in the hope that his partner would have strong enough hearts to carry on a successful defence.

The heart return killed poor South. He could still have made his contract by cashing all of his high cards and then allowing East to take his hearts, after which East would be forced to lead clubs up to the dummy. But South took the ace of hearts and tried a simple club finesse, hoping that he would get one break.

As it happened, the club finesse lost, and East promptly cashed his two heart tricks. Even though South was set one by his actual line of play, I don't really blame him. I give credit to West for refusing the first diamond finesse. If West had taken this first trick, South would have had no trouble with his game contract.

CARD SENSE

Q—The bidding has been:

South West North East

1 Heart Pass 1 Spade Pass

You, South, hold: Spades 8-3-2, Hearts A-Q-J-9-7-5, Diamonds A-K-J, Club 2. What do you do?

A—Bid three hearts. This bid is an invitation to game but is not forcing. It shows a very strong suit, almost invariably of six cards or more, with a count of 17 to 19 points. In this case you have 15 points in high cards and 2 points for the singleton.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades 8-3-2, Hearts A-Q-J-9-7-5, Diamonds A-K-J, Club 2. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

WHAT'S HER LINE?

RUBY E. CATO

Rearrange the letters to spell out occupation.

(Solution on Page 10)

London. There are two striking differences between this London collection and the last one. Firstly, the price has been cut. Then, the built-in corsetry and yards of stiffening material, usually an important feature in Dior designs, have been discarded and a "natural" line, following the figure, created in their place.

It is easy to see what Dior likes. He likes colour, and bright splashes of colour punctuate the collection... a red rose and green leaf silk print; a candy pink tulle evening dress embroidered with gold sequins; a cerise organza blouse with a grey skirt.

He likes to have a main "line" running all the way through the collection. This season it's the princess line—moulded to the figure over diaphragm, waist and hips—and shown on suits and "excess." And he likes to vary his detail. That's why he has collarless coats, low cut suits, revers, coat sleeves pushed up to elbow length.

He has first pick of new materials as they come on the market, and he makes a point of unusual ones. So there are shadow printed alpaca, fern prints, pin-checked tweeds in pastel greens and blues, and "smudge" prints—blotches of green, grey and brown merging into one another.

He likes little hats, the size and shape of saucers, tipped forward over the forehead. To decorate them he chooses such details as accordion pleated silk, and black straw with two red roses perched on the front like a fringe. Or he has them in material matching the dress or made entirely of pale pink rose petals.

are specially modified to fit the English way of life. He recently visited his London workrooms to make sure all was well. As a result, he has made one concession to English shyness of fashion—in the length of the skirt. Items of day clothes, at 14½ inches from the ground, are an inch longer than in his Paris collection.

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WOMANSENSE

Christian Dior Makes One Concession In London

By DOROTHY BARKLEY



A white velvet bonnet decorated with black embroidery, black veiling and a "question mark" feather.

He likes stylish shoes. All the shoes worn by mannequins had tapered toes and narrow, pointed heels—to follow the new "Jordan" heel which recently made its way from Paris to London.

He prefers suits worn without blouse or cravat and cuts the revers low—so low in fact that even the mannequins fingered them anxiously. The accessory which took the place of the blouse was the double string of pearls, twisted round one another, and fitted skin tight round the neck.

To go with the new designs—a new version of the model house glide. One of the mannequins, at each entry, pointed her right toe forward, ballet style, paused to look down at it, then glided across the room and repeated the gesture.

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LORD ROSEBERY WARNS OF THE DANGER OF BREEDING MAINLY FOR SPEED

London, Dec. 17.

Lord Rosebery, President of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, spoke of the danger of breeding mainly for speed in his Presidential address to the association last week.

Since the war, many authorities have warned gloomily that the standard of British racing must inevitably fall if the trend of breeding for speed continues. But British breeders, finding it difficult to keep going under heavy taxation, have been faced with the strong influence of American buyers in the sales rings, and the American market demands speed.

Lord Rosebery said: "It has always been difficult to forecast three years ahead what would be a popular stallion, but now we have come to a time when the steadiness of the market—and it has been steady this year—depends largely on American buying, and they go in almost entirely for sprinters. "We, on the other hand, must not only cater for the American market, but also endeavour to keep our animals up to our own standard of all-round excellence."

He warned that breeding only for sprinting would mean that horses would tend to stay shorter and shorter distances, until the time when they would not be able to stay even five furlongs.

Lord Rosebery adjured British breeders and buyers to remember that there were many valuable races for non-sprinters on the British turf and to try to keep an even balance between sprinters and non-sprinters. This, he declared, was vital to the supremacy of the racehorse in Britain.

HOPEFUL SIGN

Racing experts here are hopeful that the increasing number of turf courses in the United States will temper the American demand for sprinters. They regard the institution of a 100,000 dollar race over one mile, four furlongs on grass early next year as a hopeful sign that American buyers may soon be more interested in staying stock than they are at present.

While smaller breeders are no doubt being tempted to concentrate on speed to please the foreign buyer, there are signs

that many others are still keeping the British classic races well in mind.

At the Doncaster sales, where some of the cream of British bloodstock comes into the sales ring, almost all of the top dozen or so yearlings this year were by sires likely to get middle-distance performers. And all but one were purchased by home buyers.

This is an excellent sign, and augurs well for the continued high standard of British racing. But undoubtedly, there is danger in the increasing demand for short-distance animals in the sales rings.

If British breeders were to throw everything else overboard in an attempt to satisfy this demand, the classic races would be virtually thrown open to France, with a consequent decline in the prestige of the British racehorse.

FAR-REACHING

It is only in the past couple of years that French dominance of the classics during the immediate post-war years has been loosened, and any large decline in the efforts of British breeders to stem this challenge might have far-reaching results.

Another danger to the standard of British racing is the sale of top sires to foreign buyers. The most recent instance of this is the departure from the Irish National Stud to the United States of Royal Charger, whose progeny have been fetching high prices in Britain's sales rings.

Royal Charger was sold following the purchase of the Aga Khan's record-breaking colt, Tulay, at what Lord Rosebery called the "fantastic price" of 250,000 pounds sterling.

Comments that the Irish National Stud might be hard put to it to make Tulay recoup his purchase price, Lord Rosebery added: "That is not our affair, but what is a hardship for breeders is that in order to obtain some of Tulay's purchase money, they have sold Royal Charger, one of the outstanding stallions of the day—so new breeders have got an untitled stallion instead of a successful one."

Lord Rosebery announced that the methods of identifying racehorses were to be tightened up. In future, horses will not be named until they are yearlings and have acquired permanent colouring.

AGREED TO

The question had been discussed by a sub-committee, and the scheme it outlined had been agreed to by Messrs. Weatherby, proprietors of the General Stud Book.

In the past, it has been permissible to name a horse as soon as it was foaled. The colour was registered at the same time.

Horses can change their colouring quite considerably in their first year, and, as Lord Rosebery pointed out, "many a grey horse has run as a chestnut

all through his career, having been registered as a chestnut as a foal."

A change in the rules of racing has already been adopted in order to meet the scheme.

Critics who have been pressing for schemes of identification, such as the tattooing used in the United States, will no doubt consider that the new rule does not go nearly far enough.

In this connection, it is noteworthy that an animal foaled on December 31 could be named when only 24 hours old, as every horse has his "birth-day" on January 1 under British rules.

Since the case of Santa Amaro, the French horse, who is alleged to have been a "ringer" for another horse, Franciscus, when winning a race at Bath, there has been much pressure for a stronger check on identification on the British turf.

"Ringing" is probably very unusual in Britain, but it is important for public confidence in the sport that its impossibility should be made manifest.—China Mail Special.

CRICKET TEAMS

The following are selections by clubs for this week-end's cricket matches:

IRCC
1st Division, IRCC Optimists v IRC tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Chater Road.—L. D. Kilbey, G. T. Rowe, E. W. Franklin, G. H. Frith, K. G. E. Bink, T. P. Mahon, R. M. Macpherson, R. H. Armstrong, Hughes, McHenry, George, A. J. Harvey, Umpire: P. J. Hart; Scorer: R. McAdam.

RAF
1st Division, RAF v Rectory tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Kellieville (Capt.) Taylor, Supper, Horstman, West, Faulkes, Murphy, Armstrong, Hughes, McHenry, Frith, Walker, Umpire: W/O Horne.

2nd Division, RAF v IRC tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Bookhampton.—S. C. (Capt.) Leigh-Bennett, Bogreil, Barnett, Stanbridge, Mills, Hedison, Vernon, Tennent, Whitting, George, M. Lightfoot, Umpire: Sgt. Robinson.

Rectory
1st Division, Rectory v RAF tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Kellieville.—M. A. Remedios (Capt.), G. N. Gosano, A. E. Noronha, Dr. E. C. Gosano, A. M. Mendonça, G. Gosano, D. E. A. Remedios, R. A. Remedios, A. R. O. Pereira, Umpire: A. E. Omond.

2nd Division, Rectory v Dockyard tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Kings Park.—M. A. Remedios (Capt.), A. Guterres, M. A. Guterres, Dr. H. L. A. Remedios, R. D. Nunes, A. D. Brown, G. Sequeira, E. J. Noronha, A. N. Othier.

FRINDLY DRCC v KCC on Sunday at 11 a.m. at KCC.—C. L. Hughes (Capt.), G. Harley, J. W. Knapp, D. L. Back, R. Matthews, R. Horwood, J. Barber, D. Sutcliffe.

Indian R.C.
1st Division, IRC v IRCC Optimists tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Chater Road.—A. H. Ismail, S. A. Ador, A. R. Umjah, S. E. E. K. Koh, A. R. Kitchell, M. Markar, A. R. Minu, A. R. Umjah, H. T. Darnu, E. Minu, Umpire: S. A. K. Dux; scorer: S. A. R. Dux.

2nd Division, IRC v RAF tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Bookhampton.—P. M. of Arcelli, M. T. Samad, Ali Khan, Adam Khan, S. R. Khan, R. K. Lalchandani, A. R. Atack, M. A. Wallah, A. B. Ramjahn, H. T. Darnu, E. Minu, Umpire: S. A. K. Dux; scorer: S. A. R. Dux.

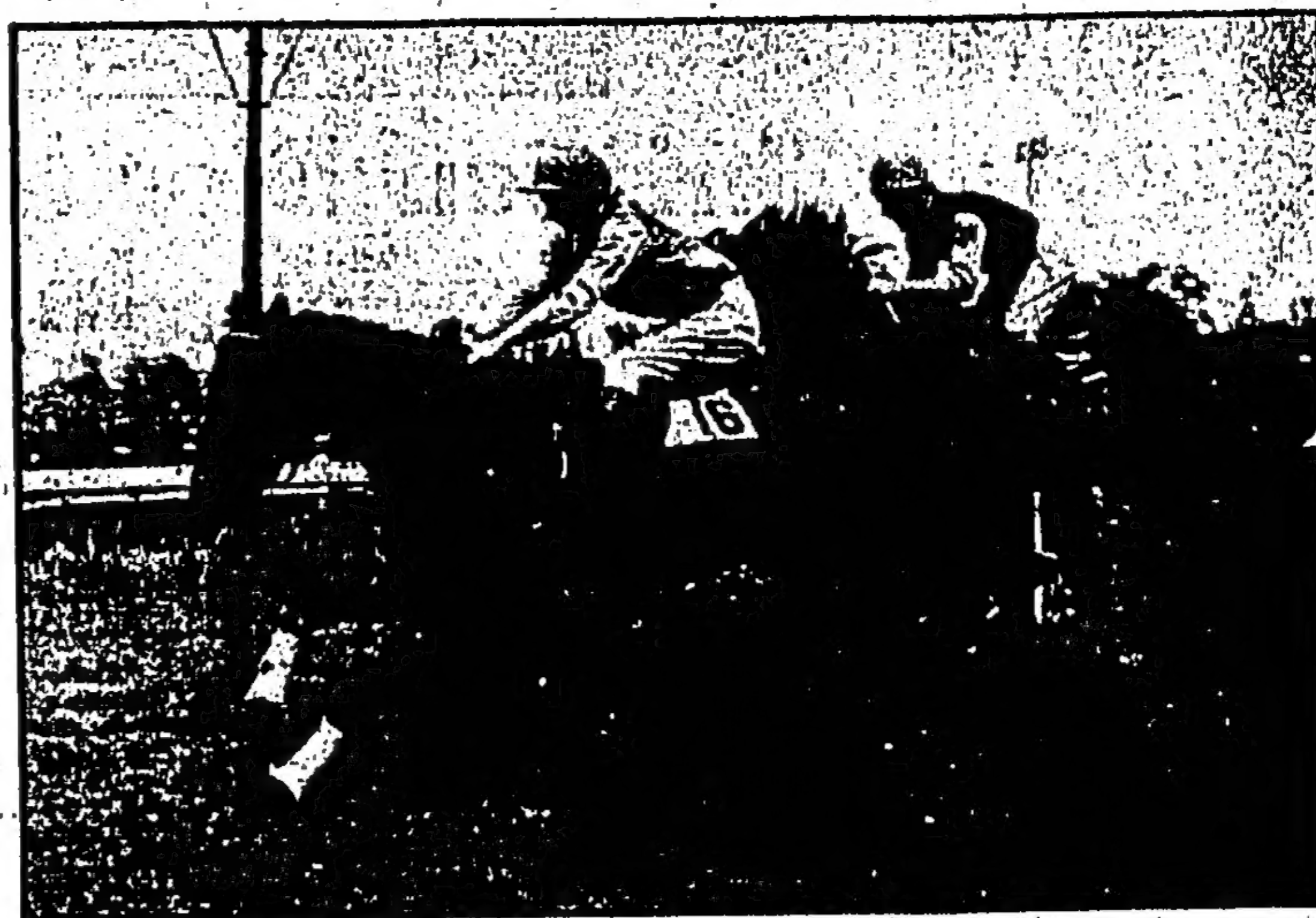
Yankee Baseball Stadium Sold

New York, Dec. 17. The Yankee Baseball Stadium was sold today to Arnold Johnson and associates of Chicago, but the Yankees immediately signed a long-term lease to continue operating there on the same basis as in the past.

The Johnson organization, a real estate firm, also purchased Blues Stadium in Kansas City, Missouri, where the Yankees operate their top farm club.

The two parks were purchased for a total consideration of US\$6,000,000. The sale of the properties was announced by the Yankees' co-owners, Dan Topping and Del Webb, United Press.

PIGGOTT'S FIRST NATIONAL HUNT MOUNT



Sixteen-year-old Lester Piggott (nearest camera) soars over the last jump at Kempton Park. Piggott had his first National Hunt mount on Tangle in the November Handicap Hurdle but the gelding tired in the straight and had no concern with the finish.—Express Photo.

Ultrasonic Waves Speed Up Recovery Of Injured Footballers

By ARCHIE QUICK

What is the connection between icebergs, sound waves and Wolverhampton Wanderers? There's a pretty quiz question. The answer is that sound waves are now being used by Wolves' physiotherapist, George Palmer, in helping injured players recover more quickly.

The idea was first tested evidently on icebergs! A man named Richardson, after the Titanic disaster in 1912, successfully experimented in taking bearings on submerged icebergs with ultrasonic waves. "Ultrasonic" means a sound wave imperceptible to the human ear to a greater degree than the supersonic wave.

The connection with Wolverhampton now becomes more clear. It was found that water was a suitable conductor for these waves, and since the human body tissues do not differ essentially from water in their density, scientists and medical men saw the possibility of these sound waves being beneficial to humans.

That is why sound waves cannot hear is being produced and applied to the damaged muscles of Wolverhampton Wanderers players.

The apparatus is portable and no bigger than a radio set. This ultrasonic set produces mechanical vibrations in areas of the body where they are most needed at a rate that cannot be equalled by any other piece of equipment.

One of the primary considerations in the treatment of players is time and that is where the ultrasonic instrument is so handy. It puts the player back on the field in half the previous time allotted for pulled muscles.

Recently, Mr. Palmer had a player with a similar damaged condition in both legs. To one limb he applied ultrasonic treatment; to the other normal methods. One leg was fit again in two days; the other in seven.

One ex-Wolverhampton Wanderer—Dennis Westcott, who was in their Cup Final team of 1939—has finally retired from football and with a most generous gesture.

He has been playing for Stafford Rangers and, for economy reasons caused through poor "gates," they decided to put Dennis on the open-to-transfer list.

His contract called for full wages up to the end of the playing season, but because of the Rangers' financial state, Westcott has agreed to forgo these. The club are extremely grateful for the action and have recorded it in their minute book.

£22 A WIN

A football manager surprised me the other day when he said: "When my first team wins each game I earn £22.10s."—and it was a Third Division side too!

It is made up this way: Wages £15.10s., bonus £2, club's contribution to player's Retirement Fund £1.10s., weekly share of £750 benefit after five years £2.30s. total £22.10s. The club gives 10% of

the player's earnings to his Retirement Fund, but he himself does not contribute.

Another sidelight on a player's "perks" was instanced to me the other day by a member of the Chelsea side. When we played at West Bromwich Albion four times in the Cup last season," he said "the bonus was £6 for a win and £4 for a draw. So we picked up £18 each, which is better than what the eventual semi-finalists drew."

All this, of course, sounds very good remuneration, but it must be remembered that a player's active life is a short one, his wages in the summer are smaller, there is always the ever-present fear of unemployment and not all the sides have a good Cup run.

A MYSTERY
A mystery to me has always been the geographical appointment of referees. Take, for instance, the Second Round of the FA Cup competition proper. Millwall, a London club, were drawn against Headington United, from Oxfordshire, but the referee appointed, Mr. J. V. Sherlock, comes from Sheffield. That is imposing unnecessary travelling expenses on two small clubs.

Ipswich Town (Suffolk) versus Walthamstow Avenue (London) was controlled by an official from Hull. Cambridge United v. Bradford by a man from Weston—supper—Mare, Peterborough v. Aldershot by a referee from Halifax—and so on.

Another anomalous position is the Football League's compulsory retirement of referees at the age of 45. Mr. WILEY Evans, of Liverpool, is one of the finest referees, after that most players—but he is 46. So off the League list he has had to go.

But the Football Association has no such rule, so Mr. Evans is still qualified to take the Cup Final if the FA thought fit, and he was, in fact, put in charge of the Hilditch Italy versus Hungary International in Milan. His lineament? Messrs. Ling and Gibson—both still active League referees! Silly, isn't it?

Another case in point occurred in the World Cup series in Rio de Janeiro. The Final was taken by Mr. John Crocker and he earned the approval of

everyone by his masterly handling of the game—but, through the age-limit being applied, he had been off the League list for two seasons!

Discussion On Thomas Cup Next Week

Hongkong's participation in the Thomas Cup and South-East Asia badminton competitions will be discussed at the Hongkong Badminton Association's 13th annual general meeting next Wednesday at 6.30 p.m. at the Victoria Recreation Club.

Clubs wishing to enter the 1953-54 Inter-Club Badminton League are requested to submit their entries at the annual meeting to the League Sub-Committee after the election of this body. Entries should be accompanied by entrance fees and the following particulars:

Names, addresses and telephone numbers of team captains. Names of a minimum number of six players in Mixed Doubles and Ladies' events, and a minimum of four in the Men's events.

Whether a home court is available or not. Affiliated Clubs are also requested to send two representatives to the annual general meeting, and to send their affiliation fee of \$10 each to the Hon. Treasurer before December 23.

Other items on the agenda of the annual meeting are to receive and adopt the annual report and accounts and to elect officers.

Club Rugby Team

The following will represent Club "B" in a rugby match against T.R.T.R. tomorrow at 2 p.m. on the Club ground: Taylor, Ingles, Spencer, Lindsay, Baird, Bell, Roberts, Flaxman, Pink, Rankin, Berger, Ansell, Cooke, Lavilla, Stevens, Russell, Rescove, Dick, Wilson, Robertson, Daniel, Richardson, Lowery.

BELGIAN PULLS OFF STUNNING UPSET IN DAVIS CUP MATCH

Brisbane, Dec. 17.

Jacques Brichant, Belgian tennis ace, pulled off a stunning upset today by defeating Vic Seixas, American tennis star, 6-3, 11-9, 2-6, 6-1, to even the Inter-Zone Davis Cup final with one victory each for the United States and Belgium.

Brichant scored his brilliant underdog victory after Tony Trabert hammered his way through Belgium's Philippe Washer, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 in the opening singles match.

The even score of the Cup series, to determine who gets the right to challenge Australia in the Challenge Round later this month, put the pressure on the American aces in their doubles match against Brichant and Washer tomorrow. It means that the two singles on the last day of competition would be significant rather than the anti-climax that had been expected.

Trabert and Seixas were expected to wrap up the Inter-zone final during the first two days of play and go on to a clean sweep over the Belgians. The win by Trabert, 23-year-old U.S. singles champion from Cincinnati, went as expected—an easy win for the American with Washer, best of the Belgians, no match for him.

But Seixas, 30-year-old netter from Philadelphia, caught a tartar in Brichant. The Belgian swept through Seixas in the first set and then won a marathon second set to take a

two-set advantage in the best-of-five play.

Seixas rallied briefly to grab the third set, but apparently had shot his bolt as the Belgian player slammed him from sideline to sideline in grabbing off the fourth and winning set by a lopsided 6-1 margin.—United Press.

SCOTTISH SPORTS SUMMARY

By "MAC"

Jimmy Walker, Partick Thistle's American-born outside left, is to quit Scottish football and return home. He is under contract until the end of April, but would like Thistle to allow him to go before then.

Son of Scottish parents, who emigrated to America, Jimmy returned to Scotland when he was seven years old. In 1940 he gained an international cap, playing for Scotland against Belgium.

Being American he could not play in the Home International tournament. His father and mother returned to America last year, and Jimmy wants to take his wife and young daughter there to join them.

PGA DECISION
Britain's Professional Golfers' Association are to recognize players who run golf schools. This was decided at a two-day convention of the Association in London recently.

Previously a professional who accepted a post in a golf school or sports store was automatically suspended. This provision means that Scottish Champion Hector Thompson will now be able to compete in next season's big-money tournaments.

Mrs C. M. MacKay, Scottish hockey captain, and capped 22 times for her country, is retiring from the representative games at the end of the season. An all-round sportswoman, she also played for Scotland at tennis and badminton.

Hugh Bryce, 17-year-old outside left with junior side St. Anthony's, is in action through a broken leg. But that hasn't stopped the attention of the talent scouts.

English First Division side Liverpool are prepared to buy him—broken leg and all. There's another odd feature representing Scotland and Hugh's injury before he realized that it was not a strained muscle.

Gus Galbraith, the young Canadian ice-hockey star, has had to have his leg amputated following an injury whilst playing for Scottish side Paisley. A benefit match between sides representing Scotland and Canada has been staged on his behalf. As a result Gus received over £700.—London Express Service.

BASKETBALLERS SUSPENDED

Singapore, Dec. 17. Eight basketball players who represented Singapore at the South-east Asia invitation tournament in Bangkok recently were suspended for two months for "their unsportsmanlike conduct in the match against the Thai police."

The suspension was imposed by George B. Lee, managing director of the Nanyang Slang Pao to which the eight players belong. In addition to the eight players, the Singapore coach, Charlie Sun, was also suspended for the same period.

Two of the suspended players represented China in the last Olympics.—United Press.

Ezzard Charles Knocks Out Coley Wallace

San Francisco, Dec. 17. Ezzard Charles took a big step forward on the comeback trail last night when he knocked out 201-pound Young Coley Wallace in 2 minutes 43 seconds of the 10th round.

Making a punching bag of his bigger foe, Charles completely dominated the bout from start to finish and immediately after the battle his managers started clamouring for a shot at the world heavyweight championship, formerly held by Ezzard but now held by Rocky Marciano.

Charles, a 2-1 favourite at ring time, toyed with his bigger foe from start to finish. The United Press score-card gave him every round except the second.

At that, there were not many damaging punches thrown until the eighth. Then Wallace went down for a nine-count from a jarring straight right to the jaw. Charles was after him like a tiger, but could not land the knockout blow in that round.

HANGING ON
They sparred around in the ninth, with Wallace hanging on, but in the 10th a volley of blows to the head sent the ninth-ranked Wallace to the canvas again for nine. He got up and tried to hang on but when Ezzard caught him again he sank to the canvas and referee Frankie Brown raised Charles' hand without making a count.

Charles weighed 190 lbs. He had to fight an unusual battle because he also had to spot five and one-half inches in reach. As a result, every punch he tossed was a hook. He missed nearly as often as he landed, as he was held off by Coley's long left. But when he landed the sting was strong.—United Press.

Home Rugger

London, Dec. 18. The following were the results of Rugby Union matches played today:

St. Andrew's University 0 Cambridge University 22-0. Civil Service 3 United Bankers 0 Dr. Peter C. Cooper, who accompanied the Cambridge University Rugby Union side to Japan this year as referee, is to officiate in the first Rugby International of the season between Wales and New Zealand at Cardiff on Saturday.

Dr. Cooper will also referee the New Zealanders' game with the Combined Services at Twickenham on Boxing Day.—Reuter.

PHOTOGRAPHS

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SCOUTS BALL
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The Johnson organization, a real estate firm, also purchased Blues Stadium in Kansas City, Missouri, where the Yankees operate their top farm club.

The two parks were purchased for a total consideration of US\$6,000,000. The sale of the properties was announced by the Yankees' co-owners, Dan Topping and Del Webb, United Press.

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Sails from Custodian Wharf		
ARRIVALS FROM		
"PAKHIO"	Shanghai	20th Dec.
"YCHOH"	Kobe	21st Dec.

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ARRIVALS FROM		
"CHANGSHA"	Australia & Manila	a.m. 10th Jan.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

Sails		
"CYCLOPS"	Liverpool & Dublin	24th Dec.
"AUTOLYCUS"	Amsterdam, London, Antwerp & Hamburg	28th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.
"CLYTONEUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Jan.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Sails		
S. "ANCHISES"	Liverpool	20th Dec.
G. "CLYTONEUS"	do	28th Dec.
S. "ASTYANAX"	do	8th Jan. 1954
G. "PYRRIUS"	do	13th Dec.
S. "EUMAEUS"	18th Dec.	25th Jan. 1954
G. "ASCANIUS"	24th Dec.	7th Feb. 1954
S. "AGAFENOR"	3rd Jan.	13th Feb. 1954
G. "PELEUS"	7th Jan.	13th Feb. 1954

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HK/Manila/Singapore (DC-3)	10:00 a.m. Wed.	2:45 p.m. Thu.
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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

S.S. "MONKAY"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignee's risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas, at 10 a.m. on the 18th December, 1953.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 18th December, 1953, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Agents

Hongkong, 18th December, 1953.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1953.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1953.

Hongkong,

ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO., LTD.
H.K. & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 27789.

Established - 1842

SHEAFFER'S
NEW
Fineline
"500" \$6⁵⁰
SLIDE BALLPOINT PEN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1953.

COAT BUYER
London Express, 12/1/24